

*United States Court of Appeals  
for the Second Circuit*



**APPENDIX**



75-1139

*B  
PAS.*

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

----- X  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Appellee

Docket No. 75-1139

-against-

WILLIE L. HARRINGTON

Defendant-Appellant

----- X

APPENDIX



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Attorney for Defendant-Appellant  
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Brooklyn, New York 11201

2

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**TITLE OF CASE**

ATTORNEY

**THE UNITED STATES**

For U.S. LEVIN-EPSTEIN

U.S.  
**WILLIE HARRINGTON**

3103

For Defendant: John Corbett  
66 Court St., - B'klyn NY, 1120

## Theft of treasury checks stolen from US mails

DATE	PROCEEDINGS
28-74	Before Bartels J - Indictment filed
5-74	Before DOOLING, J. - Case called - Deft and counsel John Corbett present deft arraigned and enters a plea of not guilty - All motion to be filed within 10 days - Deft cont on P.A. Bond
1-74	Notice of readiness for trial filed
4-74	Before PLATT, J - case called & adjd to June 24, 1974 for trial.
4-74	Before PLATT, J - case called - deft & counsel John Corbett present - ready and holding on 72 hours notice.
10-75	Before PLATT, J - case called - trial ordered & BEGUN - Jurors selected and sworn - Trial contd to 2-11-75.
11-75	Before PLATT, J - case called - trial resumed - trial contd to Feb. 13, 1975.

# 74CR 228

DATE

PROCEEDINGS

11/75 Magistrate's file 73 M 1696 inserted in CR file.

13-75 By PLATT, J - Order of sustenance filed (Lunch-14 persons)

13-75 Before PLATT, J - case called - trial resumed - jury returns with a verdict of guilty on each of counts 1 through 10 incl. Jury polled - bail continued - trial concluded - sentence adjd without date.

4-4-75 Before PLATT, J - case called - deft sentenced on count one to imprisonment for 2 years and that the deft shall become eligible for parole under 18 USCA Sec. 4208(a)(2) at such time as the Board of parole may determine - It is adjudged that on counts 2 through 10 of the indictment the deft is hereby sentenced to imprisonment for 2 years and that the term of imprisonment under each count shall be served concurrently with the term of imprisonment in count one and that under each such count the deft shall become eligible for parole under 18 USCA Sec. 4208(a)(2) at such time as the Board of Parole may determine. Clerk to file Notice of Appeal on behal of the deft - Bail contd pending appeal.

-4-75 Judgment & Commitment filed certified copies to Marshal.

-4-75 Notice of Appeal (without fee) filed.

-4-75 Docket entries and duplicate of Notice of Appeal mailed to the Court of Appeals together with Form A.

/75 Voucher for compensation of counsel filed

21/75 Copy of Order received from court of appeals and filed- ~~that record on app~~ be docketed on or before 4/25/75

TPP:KL-L also  
F. #733968

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

----- X

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- against -

WILLIE L. HARRINGTON,

Defendant.

Cr. No. 74-228  
(18 U.S.C. §1708)

3-28-74

Doodling, J.

----- X

THE GRAND JURY CHARGES.

COUNT ONE

On or about the 1st day of November, 1973, within the Eastern District of New York, the defendant WILLIE L. HARRINGTON did unlawfully have in his possession New York City Department of Social Services Check # 48353110, payable to Ines Rivera, 1695 Grand Ave., Bronx, New York, in the amount of One Hundred and Fifty-eight Dollars (\$158.00) which was the contents of a letter stolen from the United States Mail, the defendant knowing the same to have been stolen.  
(Title 18, United States Code, §1708.)

COUNT TWO

On or about the 1st day of November, 1973, within the Eastern District of New York, the defendant WILLIE L. HARRINGTON did unlawfully have in his possession New York City Department of Social Services Check # 48590114, payable to Peggy Townsend, 1664 Davidson Ave., Bronx, N.Y., in the amount of One Hundred and Fifty-five Dollars (\$155.00) which was the contents of a letter stolen from the United States Mail, the defendant knowing the same to have been stolen.  
(Title 18, United States Code, §1708.)

COUNT THREE

On or about the 1st day of November, 1973, within the Eastern District of New York, the defendant WILLIE L. HARRINGTON did unlawfully have in his possession New York City Department of Social Services Check # 48640781, payable

to Joyce Smith, 78 West 180th St., Bronx, New York, in the amount of One Hundred and Forty-eight Dollars (\$148.00) which was the contents of a letter stolen from the United States Mail, the defendant knowing the same to have been stolen. (Title 18, United States Code, §1708.)

COUNT FOUR

On or about the 1st day of November, 1973, within the Eastern District of New York, the defendant WILLIE L. HARRINGTON did unlawfully have in his possession New York City Department of Social Services Check # 32935875 payable to Maria Aviles, 30 West 181st St., Bronx, New York, in the amount of One Hundred and Thirty-five Dollars (\$135.00) which was the contents of a letter stolen from the United States Mail, the defendant knowing the same to have been stolen. (Title 18, United States Code, §1708.)

COUNT FIVE

On or about the 1st day of November, 1973, within the Eastern District of New York, the defendant WILLIE L. HARRINGTON did unlawfully have in his possession New York City Department of Social Services Check # 48647079, payable to Priscilla Finklestein, 1770 Townsend Ave., Bronx, N.Y., in the amount of One Hundred and Thirty-five Dollars (\$135.00) which was the contents of a letter stolen from the United States Mail, the defendant knowing the same to have been stolen. (Title 18, United States Code, §1708.)

COUNT SIX

On or about the 1st day of November, 1973, within the Eastern District of New York, the defendant WILLIE L. HARRINGTON did unlawfully have in his possession New York City Department of Social Services Check # 48343762, payable to Lydia Mateo, 1172 Anderson Ave., Bronx, New York, in the amount of One Hundred and Twenty-eight Dollars (\$128.00) which was the contents of a letter stolen from the United States Mail, the defendant knowing the same to have been stolen. (Title 18, United States Code, §1708.)

COUNT SEVEN

On or about the 1st day of November, 1973, within the Eastern District of New York, the defendant WILLIE L. HARRINGTON did unlawfully have in his possession New York City Department of Social Services Check # 48635905, payable to Eunice Winfield, 56 West 180th St., Bronx, New York, in the amount of One Hundred and Twenty-six Dollars and Thirty Cents (\$126.30) which was the contents of a letter stolen from the United States Mail, the defendant knowing the same to have been stolen. (Title 18, United States Code, §1708.)

COUNT EIGHT

On or about the 1st day of November, 1973, within the Eastern District of New York, the defendant WILLIE L. HARRINGTON did unlawfully have in his possession New York City Department of Social Services Check # 48643802, payable to Stara Ramhit, 78 West 180th St., Bronx, New York, in the amount of Ninety-three Dollars and Thirty-five Cents (\$93.35) which was the contents of a letter stolen from the United States Mail, the defendant knowing the same to have been stolen. (Title 18, United States Code, §1708.)

COUNT NINE

On or about the 1st day of November, 1973, within the Eastern District of New York, the defendant WILLIE L. HARRINGTON did unlawfully have in his possession New York City Department of Social Services Check # 48646666, payable to Esmasalda Martinez, 1931 Walton Ave., Bronx, New York, in the amount of One Hundred Sixty Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$160.50) which was the contents of a letter stolen from the United States Mail, the defendant knowing the same to have been stolen. (Title 18, United States Code, §1708.)

COUNT TEN

On or about the 1st day of November, 1973, within the Eastern District of New York, the defendant WILLIE L. HARRINGTON did unlawfully have in his possession New York City Department of Social Services Check # 48633056, payable to Delores Cuevas, 2042 Morris Ave., Bronx, New York, in the amount of One Hundred and Thirty-nine Dollars and Eighty-five Cents (\$135.85) which was the contents of a letter stolen from the United States Mail, the defendant knowing the same to have been stolen. (Title 18, United States Code, §1703.)

A TRUE BILL.

\_\_\_\_\_  
FOREMAN.

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

FILED  
IN CLERK'S OFFICE  
U.S. DISTRICT COURT ED. N.Y.  
APR 4 1975

----- X  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

: TIME A.M. ....  
: P.M. ....

- vs -

NOTICE OF APPEAL

WILLIE L. HARRINGTON

File No: 74 CR-228

----- X

Notice is hereby given that the defendant  
WILLIE L. HARRINGTON hereby appeals in forma pauperis  
to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit  
from the final Judgment entered in this proceeding on the

4th day of April 1975

Dated: Brooklyn, New York

April 4, 1975

By Direction of the Court

LEWIS ORGEL, CLERK  
U.S. District Court  
Eastern District of New York  
on behalf of the defendant

**Charge of the Court**

(The jury took its place in the jurybox.)

THE COURT: I congratulate you all on getting here well as you apparently are in good health and all well. I guess it is just as well we did not try to do it all yesterday. We really would have been in trouble.

We are at the point in the trial as you realize where I am going to give you instructions on the law. It is my practice to read the instructions.

I realize it is harder for you to follow instructions which are read, but I think this minimizes the possibility of error if I do read it so I will ask you to bear with me and pay attention. If you cannot hear anything that is being said, raise your hand and I will try to keep my voice up which is a little raspy.

Now that you have heard the evidence and the argument, it becomes my duty to give the instructions of the Court to the law applicable in this case.

It is your duty as jurors to follow the law as stated in the instructions of the Court, and to apply the rules of law so given to the facts as you find them to the evidence in the case.

You are not to single out one instruction alone as stating the law, but must consider the instructions

1 as a whole.

2 Neither are you to be concerned with the wisdom  
3 of any rule of law stated by the Court. Regardless  
4 of any opinion you may have as to what the law ought  
5 to be, it would be a violation of your sworn duty  
6 to base a verdict upon any other view of the law than  
7 that given in the instruction of the Court; just as  
8 it would be a violation of your sworn duty as judges  
9 of the facts, to base your verdict upon anything but  
10 the evidence of the case.

11 You must not permit yourselves to be governed  
12 by sympathy, bias, prejudice or any other consideration  
13 not founded on evidence and these instructions on the  
14 law.

15 Justice through trial by jury must always  
16 depend upon the willingness of each individual juror  
17 to seek the truth from the facts and from the same evidence  
18 presented to all the jurors; and to arrive at a verdict  
19 by applying the same rules of law as given in the  
20 instructions of the Court.

21 You have been chosen and sworn as jurors in this  
22 case to try the issues of fact presented by the  
23 allegations of the indictment and the denial made by  
24 the "not guilty" plea of the accused. You are to  
25 perform this duty without bias or prejudice as to

**Charge of the Court**

any party. Again the law does not permit jurors to be governed by sympathy, prejudice or public opinion. Both the accused and the public expect that you will carefully and impartially consider all of the evidence in the case, follow the law as stated by the Court and reach a just verdict regardless of the consequences.

I am going to send the exhibits which have been received in evidence with you as you retire for your deliberations.

An indictment is but a form or method of accusing a defendant of a crime. It is not evidence of any kind against the accused.

There are two types of evidence from which a jury may properly find a defendant guilty of a crime. One is direct evidence -- such as the testimony of an eye witness. The other is circumstantial evidence -- the proof of facts and circumstances which rationally imply the existence or non-existence of other facts because such other facts usually follow according to the common experience of mankind. Thus, the footprint of a man in the sand, implied to Robinson Crusoe, that there was another man with him on the desert island and indeed there was, the man Friday. That is what we mean by circumstantial evidence.

## 1 Charge of the Court

6

2 Thus, on the one hand, you may have direct evidence  
3 of the issue and on the other hand you may have  
4 circumstantial evidence of the issue. The law does  
5 not hold that one type of evidence is necessarily  
6 of better quality than the other. The law requires  
7 only that the Government prove its case beyond a  
8 reasonable doubt, both on the direct and circumstantial  
9 evidence. At times the jury might feel that  
10 circumstantial evidence is of better quality. At  
11 other times they may feel direct evidence is of  
12 better quality. The judgement is left entirely  
13 to you.

14 As a general rule, the law makes no distinction  
15 between direct and circumstantial evidence, but  
16 simply requires that, before convicting a defendant,  
17 the jury be satisfied of the defendant's guilty  
18 beyond a reasonable doubt from all the evidence in  
19 the case.

20 The law presumes the defendant to be innocent  
21 of crime. Thus a defendant, although accused,  
22 begins the trial with a "clean slate" -- with no  
23 evidence against him. And the law permits nothing  
24 but legal evidence presented for the jury to be  
25 considered in support of any charge against the

2 accused. So the presumption of innocence alone is  
3 sufficient to acquit a defendant unless the jurors  
4 are satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt of the  
5 defendant's guilt after careful and impartial consid-  
6 eration of all the evidence in the case.

7 The burden is always upon the prosecution to  
8 prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. This burden  
9 never shifts to a defendant; for the law never imposes  
10 upon a defendant in a criminal case, the duty or  
11 burden of calling any evidence or producing any  
12 evidence.

13 A reasonable doubt does not mean a doubt  
14 arbitrarily and capriciously asserted by a juror  
15 because of his or her reluctance to perform an  
16 unpleasant task. It does not mean a doubt arousing  
17 from a natural sympathy which we all have for others.  
18 It is not necessary for the Government to prove the  
19 guilty of the defendant beyond all possible doubt.  
20 Because if that were the rule, very few people would  
21 ever be convicted. It is practically impossible for  
22 a person to be absolutely sure and convinced of any  
23 contraverted fact, which by its nature is not  
24 susceptible of mathematical certainty. In consequence  
25 the law says that a doubt should be a reasonable doubt.

Charge of the Court

8

not a possible doubt.

A reasonable doubt is a doubt based upon reason and common sense, the kind of doubt that would make a reasonable person hesitate to act. Proof beyond a reasonable doubt must therefore be proof of such a convincing character that you would be willing to rely and act upon it unhesitatingly in the most important of your own affairs.

The jury will remember that a defendant is never to be convicted on mere suspicion or conjecture.

Again, a reasonable doubt means a doubt sufficient to cause a prudent person to hesitate to act in the most important affairs of his or her life.

The statute alleged to have been violated in this case is Section 1708 of Title 18 of United States Code which provides in pertinent part as follows, and this is one of the paragraphs:

"Whoever steals, takes or abstracts from, or out of any Post Office or station thereof, letter box, mail receptacle or any mail route or other authorized depository for mail matter, or from a letter or mail carrier" is in violation of the law.

### Charge of the Court

9

Another paragraph of the same section reads:

"Whoever buys, receives or conceals, or unlawfully has in his possession, any letter, postal card, package, bag, or mail, or any other article contained therein, which has been so stolen, taken, embezzled, or abstracted as herein described, knowing the same to have been stolen, taken, embezzled or abstracted..." is in violation of the law.

Now, the charge in Count One of the indictment, and as I have heretofore indicated to you, each of the remaining counts is the same, except for the payees, their addresses and the amounts, and I read Count One: "On or about the first day of November, 1973 within the Eastern District of New York, the defendant Willie Harrington, did unlawfully have in his possession, a New York City Department Social Services check #48353110 payable to Inez Rivera, 1695 Grand Avenue, Bronx, New York, in the amount of \$158 which was the contents of a letter stolen from the United States mail, the defendant knowing the same to have been stolen."

The essential elements of the crime charged which must be proven beyond a reasonable doubt under this count and each of the other counts are as follows:

1  
2                   First: That the letter and its contents  
3                   referred to in the indictment were deposited in and  
4                   sent through the mails;

5                   Second: That the letter and its contents were  
6                   stolen, taken, embezzled or abstracted from the mails;

7                   Third: That the defendant later received or  
8                   had the letter or contents in his possession;

9                   Fourth: That at the time of its receipt or  
10                   his possession, defendant knew the letter or its  
11                   contents were stolen.

12                   It is not necessary that the defendant knew  
13                   that the letter or its contents were stolen from the  
14                   mails. It is necessary only that the defendant knew  
15                   that the letter or its contents were stolen.

16                   It is not necessary, however, for the Government  
17                   to prove who stole the letter or any article contained  
18                   therein or how it was stolen.

19                   A letter properly mailed and never received by  
20                   the addressee, but found in quite improper and  
21                   misusing hands, if you find such to be the fact, may  
22                   be found to have been stolen from the mails in the  
23                   absence of any other explanation being proffered.

24                   In short, you may make common sense inferences from  
25                   facts which you find have been proven beyond a

2 reasonable doubt.

3 The second fact you must find beyond a  
4 reasonable doubt in order to convict is that the  
5 defendant in question "received" or "possessed" the  
6 contents of stolen mail.

7 The law recognizes two kinds of possession:  
8 Actual possession and constructive possession. A  
9 person who knowingly has direct physical control  
10 over a thing at a given time, is then in actual  
11 possession of it.

12 A person who, although not in actual possession,  
13 knowingly has both the power and the intention at a  
14 given time to exercise dominion or control over a  
15 thing, either directly or through another person  
16 or persons is then in constructive possession of it.

17 The law recognizes that possession may be sole  
18 or joint. If one person alone has actual or  
19 constructive possession of a thing, possession is  
20 sole. If two or more persons share actual or  
21 constructive possession of a thing, possession is  
22 joint.

23 Possession of property recently stolen, if  
24 not satisfactorily explained, is ordinarily a  
25 circumstance from which the jury may reasonably, but

**Charge of the Court**

12

it is not required to draw the inference and find, in the light of surrounding circumstances, shown by the evidence in the case, that the person in possession knew the property had been stolen.

Ordinarily, the same inferences may reasonably be drawn from a false explanation of possession of recently stolen property.

The term "recently" is a relative term, and has no fixed meaning. Where the property may be considered as recently stolen depends upon the nature of the property, and all the facts and circumstances shown by the evidence in the case.

If you find beyond a reasonable doubt from the evidence in the case that the checks described in the indictment were stolen, and that, while recently stolen, the property was in the possession of the accused, you may, but need not, from these facts, draw the inference that the checks were possessed by the accused with knowledge that the property was stolen unless possession of the recently stolen property by the accused is explained to the satisfaction of the jury by other facts and circumstances in evidence in the case.

It is the exclusive province of the jury to

determine whether the facts and circumstances shown by the evidence in the case warrant any inference which the law permits you to draw from possession of recently stolen property.

One of the elements of the crime charged is that the defendant knew that the checks he possessed were stolen. As I have already instructed you, that must be proven beyond a reasonable doubt.

Knowledge is something that you cannot see with the eye or touch with the finger. It is seldom possible to prove it by direct evidence. The Government relies largely upon circumstantial evidence in this case to establish knowledge.

In deciding whether this defendant knew the checks were stolen, you should consider all the circumstances, such as how the defendant handled the transaction, how he conducted himself. Do his actions betray guilty knowledge that he was dealing with stolen checks, or are his actions those of a duped innocent man.

Guilty knowledge cannot be established by demonstrating merely negligence or even foolishness on the part of the defendant.

Knowledge that the goods have been stolen may

2 be inferred from the circumstances that would convince  
3 a man of ordinary intelligence that this is the fact.  
4 The element of knowledge may be satisfied by proof  
5 that a defendant deliberately closed his eyes to  
6 what otherwise would have been obvious to him.

7 Thus, if you find that the defendant acted  
8 with reckless disregard of whether the checks were  
9 stolen, and with a conscious purpose to avoid learning  
10 the truth, the requirements of knowledge would be  
11 satisfied unless the defendant actually believed  
12 they were not stolen.

13 In this connection you should scrutinize the  
14 entire conduct of the defendant at or near the time  
15 the offenses were alleged to have been committed.

16 Now as to Exhibit 16, I informed you during  
17 the course of the trial that these checks were being  
18 received only on the question of the defendant's  
19 knowledge and intent and that I would give you a  
20 special instruction with respect thereto at this  
21 point in the trial. This special instruction is  
22 as follows:

23 The fact that the accused may have committed  
24 another offense at some time, is not any evidence  
25 or proof whatever that at another time, the accused

2 committed the offense charged in the indictment even  
3 though both offenses are of a like nature. Evidence  
4 as to an alleged prior or later offense of a like  
5 nature may not therefore be considered by the jury,  
6 in determining whether the accused did the act charged  
7 in the indictment. Nor may such evidence be considered  
8 for any other purpose whatever, unless the jury first  
9 finds that other evidence in the case, standing alone,  
10 establishes beyond a reasonable doubt, that the  
11 accused did the acts charged in the indictment, leaving  
12 aside only the question of whether the accused did  
13 it knowingly, intentionally and willfully.

14 If the jury should find beyond a reasonable  
15 doubt from the evidence in the case, that the accused  
16 did the act charged in the indictment, then the  
17 jury may consider the evidence as to an alleged earlier  
18 offense of a like nature, in determining the state of  
19 mind, knowledge, intent or willfullness with which  
20 the accused did the act charged in the indictment.  
21 And where all the elements of an alleged earlier or  
22 later offense of a like nature are established by  
23 evidence which is clear and conclusive, the jury  
24 may, but it is not obliged to, draw the inference  
25 and find that in doing the act charged in the

2 indictment the accused acted willfully, knowingly  
3 and with specific intent, and not because of mistake  
4 or accident or other innocent reason.

reel 2 5 Statements and arguments of counsel are not  
6 evidence in the case, unless made as an admission  
7 or stipulation of fact. When the attorneys on both  
8 sides stipulate or agree as to the existence of a fact,  
9 you must, unless otherwise instructed, accept the  
10 stipulation as evidence, and regard that fact as  
11 proved.

12 The Court may take judicial notice of certain  
13 facts or evidence. When the Court declares it will  
14 take judicial notice of a fact or event, you may  
15 accept the Court's declaration as evidence, and regard  
16 as proved, the fact or event which has been judicially  
17 noticed, but you are not required to do so since  
18 you are the sole judges of the facts.

19 Unless you are otherwise instructed, the  
20 evidence in the case always consists of the sworn  
21 testimony of the witnesses, regardless of who may  
22 have called them; and all exhibits received in  
23 evidence, regardless of who may have produced them,  
24 and all facts which may have been admitted or  
25 stipulated; and all facts and evidence which may have

2 been judicially noticed; and all applicable presumptions  
3 stated in these instructions.

4 Any evidence as to which an objection was  
5 sustained by the Court, and any evidence ordered  
6 stricken by the Court, must be entirely disregarded.

7 Evidence does include, however, what is brought  
8 out from witnesses on cross examination as well as  
9 what is testified to on direct examination.

10 Unless you are otherwise instructed, anything  
11 you may have seen or heard outside the courtroom,  
12 is not evidence, and must be entirely disregarded.

13 You are to consider only the evidence in  
14 the case and your verdict is to be based on the  
15 evidence only. But in your consideration of the  
16 evidence, you are not limited to the full statements  
17 of the witnesses. In other words, you are not limited  
18 solely to what you see and hear as the witnesses  
19 testified. You are permitted to draw from facts  
20 which you find have been proved, such reasonable  
21 inferences as you feel are justified in the light  
22 of experience.

23 Inferences are deductions or conclusions  
24 which reason and common sense lead the jury to draw  
25 from the facts which have been established by the

2 evidence in the case.

3 To go back for just one moment to the question  
4 of knowledge and intent, knowledge and intent  
5 ordinarily may not be proved directly, because there  
6 is no way of fathoming or scrutinizing the operations  
7 of the human mind. But you may infer a defendant's  
8 knowledge and intent from the surrounding circum-  
9 stances. You may consider any statement made and  
10 done or omitted by a defendant, and all other facts  
11 and circumstances in evidence which indicates his  
12 state of mind. It is ordinarily reasonable to infer  
13 that a person intends the natural and probably  
14 consequences of acts knowingly done or knowingly  
15 omitted.

16 If a lawyer asks a witness a question which  
17 contains an assertion of facts, you may not consider  
18 the assertion as evidence of that fact. The lawyers'  
19 statements are not evidence.

20 You, as jurors are the sole judges of the  
21 credibility of the witnesses and the weight their  
22 testimony deserves.

23 You should carefully scrutinize all the  
24 testimony given, the circumstances under which each  
25 witness has testified and every matter in evidence

2 which tends to show whether a witness is worthy of  
3 belief. Consider each witness's intelligence,  
4 motive and state of mind and demeanor and manner while  
5 on the stand. Consider the witness's ability to  
6 observe the matters to which he has testified, and  
7 whether he impresses you as having an accurate  
8 recollection of these matters. Consider any relation  
9 each witness may bear to either side of the case;  
10 the manner in which each witness might be affected  
11 by the verdict; and the extent to which, if at all,  
12 each witness is either supported or contradicted  
13 by other evidence in the case.

14 Inconsistencies or discrepancies in the  
15 testimony of a witness, or between the testimony  
16 of different witnesses, may or may not cause the jury  
17 to discredit such testimony. Two or more persons  
18 witnessing an incident or a transaction may see or  
19 hear it differently; an innocent misrecollection,  
20 like failure of recollection is not an uncommon  
21 experience. In weighing the effect of a discrepancy  
22 always consider whether it pertains to a matter of  
23 importance or an unimportant detail, and whether the  
24 discrepancy results from innocent error or intentional  
25 falsehood.

2 After making your own judgement, you will  
3 give the testimony of each witness, such credibility  
4 if any, as you may think it deserves.

5 Other testimony of a witness may be discredited  
6 or impeached by showing that he previously made  
7 statements which are inconsistent with his present  
8 testimony. The earlier contradictory statements are  
9 admissible only to impeach the credibility of the  
10 witness, and not to establish the truth of these  
11 statements. It is the province of the jury to  
12 determine the credibility, if any, to be given the  
13 testimony of a witness who has been impeached.

14 If a witness is shown knowingly to have  
15 testified falsely concerning any material matter,  
16 you have a right to distrust such witness' testimony  
17 in other particulars; and you may reject all of the  
18 testimony of that witness or give it such credibility  
19 as you may think it deserves.

20 A defendant who wishes to testify, however,  
21 is a competent witness; and the defendant's testimony  
22 is to be judged in the same way as that of any other  
23 witness.

24 The law permits a defendant at his own request  
25 to testify in his own behalf. The testimony of an

1  
2 individual defendant is before you. You must determine  
3 how far it is credible. The deep personal interest  
4 which every defendant has in the result of his case  
5 should be considered in determining the credibility  
6 of his testimony. You are instructed that interest  
7 creates a motive for false testimony; that the  
8 greater the interest the stronger is the temptation  
9 and that the interest of the defendant is of a  
10 character possessed by no other witness, and is  
11 therefore, a matter which may seriously affect  
12 the credence that should be given to his testimony.

13 You should bear in mind as I said before,  
14 you should scrutinize the testimony of all witnesses  
15 and weigh their testimony in the light of their  
16 interest which they may have in the case. This  
17 includes the Government's witnesses, of course,  
18 as well.

19 Now, there has been character evidence which  
20 was produced by the defendant in this case.

21 There has been testimony here to the previous  
22 good character of the defendant. You should consider  
23 such evidence of character together with all the  
24 other facts, with respect to the guilt or innocence  
25 of the defendant. Evidence of good character may

2 in itself create a reasonable doubt where without  
3 such evidence no reasonable doubt may have existed.  
4 But if on all the evidence you are satisfied beyond  
5 a reasonable doubt that the defendant is guilty, a  
6 showing that he had previously enjoyed a reputation  
7 of good character, does not justify or excuse the  
8 offense, and you should not acquit a defendant merely  
9 because you believe he is a person of good repute.

10 The testimony of a character is not to be  
11 regarded by you as expressing the witness's personal  
12 opinion of the defendant's character, nor is it to  
13 be taken by you as the witness's opinion as to the  
14 guilty or innocence of the defendant. The guilt or  
15 innocence of the defendant is for you and you alone  
16 to determine.

17 It is the duty of the attorney on each side  
18 of a case, to object when the other side offers  
19 testimony or evidence which the attorney believes  
20 is not properly admissible. You should not show  
21 prejudice against an attorney or his client because  
22 the attorney has made objections.

23 Upon allowing testimony or other evidence to  
24 be introduced over the objections of an attorney,  
25 the Court does not, unless expressly stated, indicate

2 any opinion as to the weight or effect of such  
3 evidence. As stated before, the jurors are the sole  
4 judges of the credibility of all witnesses and the  
5 weight and effect of all evidence.

6 When the Court has sustained an objection  
7 to a question addressed to a witness, the jury must  
8 disregard the question entirely and may draw no  
9 inference from the wording of it or speculate as to  
10 what the witness would have said if he had been  
11 permitted to answer any question.

12 The fact that the Court has asked one or  
13 more questions of a witness for clarification or  
14 admissibility of evidence purposes, is not to be  
15 taken by you in any way as indicating that the Court  
16 has any opinion as to the guilty or innocence of  
17 the defendant in this case, and you are to draw no  
18 such inference therefrom. As heretofore indicated,  
19 the Court has no such opinion. That determination  
20 is up to you and you alone based on all the facts  
21 in this case and the applicable law in this  
22 instruction.

23 You are here to determine the guilt or  
24 innocence of the accused from the evidence in the  
25 case. You are not called upon to return a verdict

2 as to the guilt or innocence of any other person or  
3 persons. So, if the evidence in the case convinces  
4 you beyond a reasonable doubt of the guilt of the  
5 accused, you should so find, even though you may  
6 believe one or more other persons are guilty. But  
7 if any reasonable doubt remains in your minds after  
8 impartial consideration of all the evidence in the  
9 case, it is your duty to find the accused not guilty.

10 The verdict must represent the considered  
11 judgement of each juror. In order to return a verdict  
12 it is necessary that each juror agree thereto. Your  
13 verdict must be unanimous.

14 It is your duty as jurors, to consult with  
15 one another, and to deliberate with a view to reaching  
16 an agreement, if you can do so without violence to  
17 individual judgements. Each of you must decide the  
18 case for himself but do so only after an impartial  
19 consideration of the evidence in the case with your  
20 fellow jurors. In the course of your deliberations  
21 do not hesitate to reexamine your own views, and  
22 change your opinion if convinced it is erroneous.  
23 But do not surrender your honest conviction as to  
24 the weight or effect of evidence, solely because of  
25 the opinion of your fellow jurors, or for the mere

2 purpose of returning a verdict.

3           If any reference by the Court to matters of  
4 evidence does not coincide with your recollection,  
5 it is your recollection which should control during  
6 your deliberations.

7           The punishment provided by law for the offenses  
8 charged in the indictment is a matter exclusively  
9 within the province of the Court and should never  
10 be considered by the jury in any way, in arriving at  
11 an impartial verdict as to the guilt or innocence of  
12 the accused.

13           Upon retiring to the juryroom, the lady seated  
14 in the front row nearest to me, juror #1, will act  
15 as your Forelady, unless she elects not to do so,  
16 in which case, you will elect one of your number to  
17 act as your Foreman or Forelady, as the case may be.  
18 The Forelady will preside over your deliberations  
19 and will be your spokesman here in Court.

20           Remember at all times, you are not partisans,  
21 you are judges -- judges of the facts. Your sole  
22 interest is to seek the truth from the evidence in  
23 the case.

24           There is nothing peculiarly different from  
25 the way a jury should consider the evidence in a

2 case, from that in which all reasonable persons  
3 treat any question depending upon evidence presented  
4 to them. You are expected to use your good sense;  
5 consider the evidence in the case for only those  
6 purposes for which it has been admitted and give it  
7 a reasonable and fair construction in the light of  
8 your common knowledge of the natural tendencies and  
9 inclinations of human beings.

10 If the accused be proved guilty beyond a  
11 reasonable doubt, say so. If not so proved guilty,  
12 say so.

13 You must render a verdict with respect to  
14 each of the ten counts in the indictment that I have  
15 described to you.

16 If it becomes necessary during your deliberations  
17 to communicate with the Court, you may send a note  
18 by a bailiff, signed by your foreman, or by one or  
19 more members of your jury. No member of the jury  
20 should ever attempt to communicate with the Court by  
21 any means other than a signed writing and the Court  
22 will never communicate with any member of the jury  
23 on any subject touching upon the merits of the case,  
24 otherwise than in writing or orally here in open court.

25 You will note from the oath about to be taken

2 by the deputy marshals that they too, as well as  
3 other persons are forbidden to communicate in any  
4 way or manner, with any member of the jury, touching  
5 on the merits of the case.

6 Bear in mind also that you are never to reveal  
7 to any person -- not even to the Court -- how the  
8 jury stands, numerically or otherwise, on the  
9 question of the guilt or innocence of the accused,  
10 until after you have reached a unanimous verdict.

11 Now, those are the instructions, Ladies and  
12 Gentlemen, and the procedure which we follow at  
13 this point is that I excuse you for a few minutes  
14 while I discuss the questions of law with counsel.

15 (The jury left the jurybox and the courtroom.)

16 MR. LEVIN-EPSTEIN: Only one point, your Honor.  
17 As we discussed at the sidebar partly through the  
18 trial and as Mr. Corbett pointed out, there are four  
19 counts in the indictment in which typographical errors  
20 have resulted in the amounts of the checks being  
21 different from the amounts actually imprinted upon  
22 the checks in some cases, as much as \$.50 and I  
23 will ask the Court to instruct the jury that the  
24 amounts of each check are surplussage in the indictment  
25 and need not be considered as part of their deliberations.

1  
2                   THE COURT: It makes reference to the specific  
3                   amount of money, although it is not necessary to  
4                   establish precise amounts, I will give them that  
5                   instruction.

6                   MR. LEVIN-EPSTEIN: If the Court please, I  
7                   will read for the record what the differences are  
8                   so the Court is aware of them.

9                   In Count Two of the indictment, the allegation  
10                  is the check was made out in the amount of \$155.

11                  In actuality, that check named in Count Two is made  
12                  out in the amount of \$155.50.

13                  In Court Four of the indictment the allegation  
14                  is the check was issued in the amount of \$135.

15                  In actuality, the check alleged in Count Four as  
16                  having been stolen is made out in the amount of \$135.50.

17                  In Count Five of the indictment, the amount  
18                  of the check is alleged to have been \$135. In  
19                  actuality the check named in Count Five is prepared  
20                  in the amount of \$131.15. I believe that is the  
21                  largest difference.

22                  In Count Ten of the indictment, it specifies  
23                  the check in the amount of \$139.85 and then it says  
24                  \$135.85 and I can indicate to the Court the correct  
25                  amount is \$139.85 as written out.

2 Those are the differences. I do not believe  
3 they are significant. It is the position of the  
4 Government that the amount of the checks for the  
5 purposes of jury consideration are irrelevant, and  
6 in one sense surplussage, and need not be  
7 considered by the jury.

8 THE COURT: That is not the issue anyway.

9 MR. LEVIN-EPSTEIN: The only issue as far as  
10 \$107.08 is concerned, is that the defendant knowingly  
11 possessed stolen mail, no matter what the amount was.

12 MR. CORBETT: Your Honor, this is a vexing  
13 problem because at this time I do not see how we  
14 can alter the amounts in the indictment.

15 THE COURT: He is not asking that. He is  
16 asking the jury be given a standard instruction that  
17 the precise amount alleged need not be proven and  
18 may be more or less. In this case I think it is  
19 correct.

20 MR. CORBETT: I respectfully accept.

21 THE COURT: You have the amounts, what are  
22 you worried about? I have given them the instruction  
23 applicable to this case.

24 MR. CORBETT: No exceptions with the sole  
25 exception that I have just entered on the record.

2 Other than that I have no exceptions and no further  
3 requests to charge.

4 MR. LEVIN-EPSTEIN: Nothing from the Government.

5 THE COURT: Bring the jury in.

6 (The jury took its place in the jurybox.)

7 THE COURT: Counsel for the Government has  
8 indicated, there are I believe four discrepancies in  
9 the amounts, very small discrepancies in the amounts  
10 stated in the four counts of the indictment in  
11 the amount of the checks, whether they be typographical  
12 or otherwise.

13 I think the general rule is that where an  
14 indictment as in this case makes reference to specific  
15 amounts of money, ordinarily it is not necessary to  
16 establish the precise amount alleged in the indictment  
17 and the prosecution may succeed by establishing some  
18 substantial amount which may be more or less than  
19 the amount charged in the indictment. If the figures  
20 do not mesh completely in every case, it is not  
21 material.

22 The question of course is whether the accused  
23 was in the possession of the contents of stolen mail  
24 knowing the same to have been stolen as I have indicated  
25 to you.

2 All right, Ladies and Gentlemen of the jury,  
3 as soon as we can get a couple of marshals here,  
4 we will swear them in and then you will be able to  
5 begin your deliberations.

6 (The marshals were duly sworn.)

7 THE COURT: The alternate jurors at this point  
8 are excused. You go with the thanks of the Court.  
9 In this particular case your services were not needed,  
10 but in many cases they are. In the last few months  
11 I can recall three or four alternates who had to  
12 serve in place of jurors who have been taken ill.  
13 Your fellow jurors have all been very healthy during  
14 the course of the trial and your services have not  
15 been needed. You do perform a valuable service,  
16 as I am sure you realize, and you go with the thanks  
17 of the Court. You are excused. Go back to the  
18 central jury room.

19 The other twelve jurors may go to the jury-  
20 room and begin your deliberations.

21 If your deliberations carry beyond or if they  
22 look like they are going to carry beyond 12:00,  
23 notify the marshal as to whether you want to send out  
24 for lunch on this cold day, or whether you want them  
25 to arrange for lunch being brought in and they will



1  
2 make arrangements if you do not want to go out to  
3 bring in whatever you like.

4 (The jury left the courtroom.)

5 THE COURT: I said I was going to send in the  
6 exhibits. Would you give them to me and I will give  
7 them to the deputy marshal.

8 MR. LEVIN-EPSTEIN: I have them. Also the  
9 Government will prepare a copy of the indictment.

10 THE COURT: No, unless they ask for it I do  
11 not intend to send in for the indictment.

12 Hand them to the marshal. Do you wish to  
13 check them?

14 MR. CORBETT: I will just look at them. Fine.

15 THE COURT: Send them to the jury.

16 MR. CORBETT: I shall remain in the vicinity  
17 of the courtroom as is my usual custom.

18 THE COURT: If the Sandra Shapiro case, which  
19 is my next case, wants a jury, I will probably take  
20 this jury at lunchtime, and put them in Judge  
21 Rayfiel's juryroom.

22 (Whereupon a recess was taken until 11:40 a.m.)

23 THE COURT: The jury has apparently reached  
24 a verdict. Mr. Harrington, would you come up to  
25 the defense table please.



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*Done off Penn*